



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/699,429	10/31/2003	Sheldon B. Moberg	PF00419 Div	3250
23608 7590 12/27/2007 MEDTRONIC MINIMED INC. 18000 DEVONSHIRE STREET NORTHRIDGE, CA 91325-1219			EXAMINER STIGELL, THEODORE J	
			ART UNIT 3763	PAPER NUMBER
			MAIL DATE 12/27/2007	DELIVERY MODE PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/699,429	Applicant(s) MOBERG, SHELDON B.	
	Examiner Theodore J. Stigell	Art Unit 3763	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 12 October 2007.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1,3-16 and 18-30 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1,3-16 and 18-30 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1-2, 9-17, and 24-30 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Siposs et al. (4,435,173). Siposs discloses an external infusion device (10) for infusion of a fluid into a body from a reservoir (24) comprising a drive system (28,32,38) to operatively couple with the reservoir to infuse a fluid into a body, a housing (12) adapted for use on an exterior of the body, wherein the housing is sized to contain at least a portion of a reservoir, wherein the drive mechanism is at least partially contained within the housing, wherein the drive mechanism operatively couples with the at least a portion of a reservoir within the housing, and wherein the housing is sized to be carried by a user without significant restriction on mobility, electronic control circuitry (50) coupled to the drive system to control infusion of the fluid into the body, wherein the housing has at least one vent port (26,27) that permits the passage of air into and out of the housing and inhibits the passage of liquids into the housing through the at least one vent port (when the plunger is retracted, air and liquid are not permitted through the check valve 27 and when the plunger is depressed air is permitted into the housing to fill the barrel that was just filled with medication), wherein the at least one vent port further

Art Unit: 3763

includes a hydrophobic material that permits the passage of air into and out of the housing and inhibits the passage of liquids into the housing through the at least one vent port, wherein the hydrophobic material is pressed or molded into the device, wherein the device is water-proof and can deliver insulin, and wherein the vent port equalizes pressure.

Claims 1-2, 9-17, and 24-30 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Klatz et al. (5,709,654). Klatz discloses an external infusion device (20) for infusion of a fluid into a body from a reservoir (30) comprising a drive system (46) to operatively couple with the reservoir to infuse a fluid into a body, a housing (22) adapted for use on an exterior of the body, wherein the housing is sized to contain at least a portion of a reservoir, wherein the drive mechanism is at least partially contained within the housing, wherein the drive mechanism operatively couples with the at least a portion of a reservoir within the housing, and wherein the housing is sized to be carried by a user without significant restriction on mobility, electronic control circuitry (50) coupled to the drive system to control infusion of the fluid into the body, wherein the housing has at least one vent port (68,69) that permits the passage of air into and out of the housing and inhibits the passage of liquids into the housing through the at least one vent port, wherein the at least one vent port further includes a hydrophobic material that permits the passage of air into and out of the housing and inhibits the passage of liquids into the housing through the at least one vent port, wherein the hydrophobic material is pressed or molded into the device, wherein the device is water-proof and can deliver insulin, and wherein the vent port equalizes pressure.

Claims 1-2, 9-17, and 24-30 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Theeuwes et al. (5,151,093). Theeuwes discloses an external infusion device (20,30) for infusion of a fluid into a body from a reservoir (23) comprising a drive system (10) to operatively couple with the reservoir to infuse a fluid into a body, a housing (22) adapted for use on an exterior of the body, wherein the housing is sized to contain at least a portion of a reservoir, wherein the drive mechanism is at least partially contained within the housing, wherein the drive mechanism operatively couples with the at least a portion of a reservoir within the housing, and wherein the housing is sized to be carried by a user without significant restriction on mobility, electronic control circuitry (control circuitry which fills chamber 40 with liquid that controls the osmotic engine) coupled to the drive system to control infusion of the fluid into the body, wherein the housing has at least one vent port (34) that permits the passage of air into and out of the housing and inhibits the passage of liquids into the housing through the at least one vent port, wherein the at least one vent port further includes a hydrophobic material that permits the passage of air into and out of the housing and inhibits the passage of liquids into the housing through the at least one vent port, wherein the hydrophobic material is pressed or molded into the device, wherein the device is water-proof and can deliver insulin, and wherein the vent port equalizes pressure.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the

Art Unit: 3763

invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

The factual inquiries set forth in *Graham v. John Deere Co.*, 383 U.S. 1, 148 USPQ 459 (1966), that are applied for establishing a background for determining obviousness under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) are summarized as follows:

1. Determining the scope and contents of the prior art.
2. Ascertaining the differences between the prior art and the claims at issue.
3. Resolving the level of ordinary skill in the pertinent art.
4. Considering objective evidence present in the application indicating obviousness or nonobviousness.

Claims 3-8 and 18-23 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Siposs et al. (4,435,173), Klatz et al. (5,709,654), or Theeuwes et al. (5,151,093).

The references disclose most of the limitations recited by the Applicant but fail to disclose various embodiments of the vent, such as a sheet or label. However, the Applicant has not disclosed that these embodiments work any better than the embodiments shown in the references. Therefore, these limitations are deemed to be matters of design choice that fail to patentably distinguish over the prior art.

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments filed 10/12/2007 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

In response to the applicant's argument that the references do not teach a hydrophobic material, the examiner respectfully disagrees. The references disclose medical devices which are made of either a plastic or metal which are both hydrophobic materials.

Conclusion

THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Theodore J. Stigell whose telephone number is 571-272-8759. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8:30-5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Nicholas Lucchesi can be reached on 571-272-4977. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.


Theodore J. Stigell


